My hibiscus experience is wide and varied (?). From Miami 3 years ago I brought back, in my luggage, about 30 kinds of supposedly good hibiscus, some have died, due to lack of care by one of my local gardeners while I was on vacation last year. Anyway, I have a few. I have tried grafting and have had fair success. I have had practically all failures with attempts at budding. I have in these years produced a crop of seed totalling one pod from an unnamed variety, and have grown a grand total of about 8 plants just getting their first flowers. There apparently will be some variation because there is considerable variation in leaf shape and size. One has leaves as large as one's hand, thick, glossy green. The thing which I definitely DO NOT know is how to produce seed. How does one pollinate the blasted things? Carefully and gently I place the pollen on the female parts of the freshly opened flower, threaten to chop it down if it won't set and it don't set. HOW DO you get seed?

Wood, we have hedges of the "common" single hibiscus twenty feet high. Wood is no problem, I am referring to wood for root stocks.

(The editor had sent in one of his letters a cutting to see if it would get there in good shape. Here is the answer to that - Ed)

Now to the wood. I wanted to give it the red

(next page)

MONROE'S HIBISCUS NURSERY

COME AND SEE US ANY TIME

783 Central Avenue, Eagle Lake
CYpress 3-7662

Plants Graftwood

carpet treatment. I went to the farm this afternoon after work, got the rootstock in quart cans. Brought them home, took them into my room and enlisted the aid of the Mrs. to do the grafting. I made 3 side grafts. I sterlized the knife, wrapped the graft in rubber and placed a plastic bag over the top of the can. I crossed myself doubly, recited to myself a few lines of the Lord's Prayer, invoked divine assistance, put my grubby fingers on it and began the job. I do hope that they "take".

I don't believe I sent you a clipping from our local paper clipped a few months ago. This shows a guy who "got it in the neck" and it is NOT just a figure of speech either!! (The fellow had an arrow all the way through his neck. The arrow going from the back all the way through and out the front. - ED) These Indians have inhabited the forests here ever since I've been here and it is but within the last few months that the first Peaceful Contacts have been made with them. Pure savages in all the sense of the word. One was in camp the other day. Had on his dress suit. A piece of plastic covered, twisted electric cord and a leaf of hand size. Perfectly clothed and at home with us in modern dress.

The Government is interested in learning more of their language and mode of life. They took a group of ten to Bogota last week. The old chief, no fool, would not permit the group to go to Botoga without 10 whites being turned over to him as hostages for a guarantee of safe return of his redskins. So much for the Cowboys and Indians.

Sincerely,
Johnie

-0-

Men should keep their eyes wide open before marriage, and half shut afterward.

-0-

Love starts when she sinks in your arms, and ends with her arms in the sink.